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Jim Jensen, Montana Environmental Information Center, P.O. Box 1184, Helena, MT 59624
Janet Ellis, Montana Audubon Council, P.O. Box 595, Helena, MT 59624
Rick Blaskovich, B.O.R. Montana Projects Office, P.O. Box 30137, Billings, MT 59107-0137

Ladies and Gentlemen:

The enclosed Environmental Assessment (EA) has been prepared for Breakwater installation at Canyon Ferry Lake, in Lewis and Clark County, and is submitted for your consideration. Questions and comments will be accepted until August 7, 1992. All comments should be sent to the undersigned.

Sincerely,

Jerry Wells
Regional Supervisor

PJG/bm
Enclosures

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PART I. PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND BACKGROUND INFORMATION

1. Type of Proposed State Action Breakwater installation at Canyon Ferry Lake

2. Agency Authority for the Proposed Action (Montana Code Annotated and Administrative Rules of Montana citations): MCA-23-2-101

3. Name of Project Kim's Marina Floating Breakwater (Canyon Ferry State Park Concession)

4. Name, Address and Phone Number of Project Sponsor (if other than the agency) Kim's Marina & Resort, 8015 Canyon Ferry Road, Helena, MT 59601 (404) 475-3723 and FWP, Region 8, 1404 8th Avenue, Helena, MT 50620 (406) 444-4720

5. Estimated Construction/Commencement Date June 1992

   Estimated Completion Date July 1992

   Current Status of Project Design (% complete) Not started at this time.

6. Location Affected by Proposed Action (county, range and township) Lewis & Clark County, R1W, T11N.

7. Project size: Estimate the number of acres that would be directly affected that are currently:

   a. Developed:
      Residential...... 0 acres
      Industrial....... 0 acres

   b. Open Space/Woodlands/
      Recreation....... 0 acres

   c. Wetlands/........ 0 acres
      Riparian Areas

   d. Floodplain........ 0 acres

   e. Productive:
      Irrigated Cropland 0 acres
      Dry Cropland...... 0 acres
      Forestry.......... 0 acres
      Rangeland......... 0 acres
      Other............. 0 acres

8. Map/site plan: See attached map.

9. Narrative Summary of the Proposed Action or Project for Which Agency Approval or Funding is Requested.

   Canyon Ferry Lake is part of Canyon Ferry State Park and is a Bureau of Reclamation project that was constructed in the early 1950's. The reservoir operation is primarily a hydro-electric plant (Montana Power Company owns most of the primary water rights).

   This area has also been historically enjoyed as a recreation area for both resident and non-resident recreationalists. The Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks Department manages Canyon

Ferry for recreation and wildlife through a Memorandum of Understanding that was entered into in 1957 with the Bureau of Reclamation.

There are three marina operators that have lease agreements with Fish, Wildlife and Parks. Kim's Marina is one of the three concessionaires. Because of the location of Kim's Marina, the reservoir configuration, and weather patterns, Kim's Marina sits on a relatively shallow bay when compared to the other two operators. When the water level is lowered or a drought condition occurs, Kim's Marina (bay) is too shallow for many boats to utilize it. Sail boats, in particular, require deeper water. The Marina operator at Kim's Marina would like to move the existing boat docks out further south of the bay for this year only, due to drought conditions. This will; however, necessitate building a breakwater in order to provide protection for his docks from wind and wave action. The drought this summer has caused a dramatic decrease in the water elevation of Canyon Ferry Lake so we have taken emergency action under ARM 12.2.446. The existing water level in the bay is presently too shallow to be used safely by the boating public. If the water level continues to recede, it will literally land lock some of the boats that are currently docked. The breakwater will be constructed out of logs for the superstructure with 2' x 8' x 10" styrofoam dock logs for floatation. The logs will be treated with CCA (Copper Chromated Arsenic) to prevent rotting. According to the Department of Health and Environmental Sciences, logs treated with CCA are not a cause for water quality concerns in the reservoir. The decking and breakwater fencing will be made from non-treated two by ten logs. For more information, see detailed sketch. The breakwater will be anchored with sea anchors constructed with tire rims and attached to the structure with 5/16" cable.

10. Benefits and Purposes of Proposed Action.

The benefits and purpose of the proposed action is to supply protection to our state park marina operator's boat docks. With a fluctuating water level, such as what exists at Canyon Ferry, the bay at Kim's Marina is often too shallow. Sailboats in particular have a difficult time when there is shallow water. In order to provide a more viable and reliable operation, the marina operator has requested that he be allowed to move his boat docks further south just out of the bay at Kim's (see attached map). The floating breakwater will also make it safer for the boater to use the protected docks by alleviating much of the wave action.

11. Alternatives That Have Been Proposed or Considered:

An alternative to building a breakwater would be to dredge out the bay. This could present a negative environmental impact as well as a major expense. The cost of dredging and the time it would take would not assist the concessionaire in dealing with years of drought impact (low water level). Also, an action of this nature would necessitate a minimum of full public review and possibly an

E.I.S. A do nothing alternative would result in a potentially substantial revenue loss to the concessionaire and just as important , the loss of recreation to the many boaters who utilize the facility. While there are many other types of materials that could be used in the construction of a breakwater, a wood type of breakwater is the most cost effective. Please see attached building diagram. The floatation consists of inflated tires, there will be no floatation materials used that would provide negative potential water quality impacts.

12. Describe any Mitigation or Control Measure.

If for some reason the breakwater does not work or has to be rebuilt, it will be at the cost of the marina operator. The marina operator will pull the breakwater into the protected bay in the off-season to circumvent any damage due to ice. Historically, this bay has not had winter ice (sheeting) problems; however, if for some reason the dock sustains icing damage, it will be the responsibility of the concessionaire.

13. Agencies From Which Permits or Other Approvals Have Been/Will Be Sought:

Agency Name	Permit	Date Filed/#
Army Corps of Engineers Marina Operation	404	Nationwide Permit Action #199290268

14. Agencies or Programs From Which Financial Assistance Will Be Sought:

Agency Name	Funding Amount
None	This will be funded by the concessionaire

15. Agencies Consulted During Preparation of the EA:

The Department of Health and Environmental Sciences (Water Quality Bureau), the Environmental Quality Council, the Army Corps of Engineers, and the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks (Design and Construction Bureau).

16. Name(s) of the Person(s) Responsible for Preparing the EA:

Patrick J. Gubbins
Region 8

17. Is an E.I.S. Necessary?

An E.I.S., because of the scope of this project, is not necessary. There are only a few minor aesthetic impacts that will result with this project.

PART II. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT EVALUATION

	UNKNOWN	NONE	MINOR	POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT	CAN IMPACT BE MITIGATE BY PROJECT CHANGE?
1. LAND RESOURCES					
Will the proposed action result in:					
a. Soil instability or changes in geologic substructures?		X			
b. Disruption, displacement erosion, compaction, moisture loss, or over covering of soil which would reduce productivity or fertility?		X			
c. Destruction, covering or modification of any unique geologic or physical features?		X			
d. Changes in siltation, deposition or erosion patterns that may modify the channel of a river or stream or the bed or shore of a lake?		X			
e. Exposure of people or property to earthquakes, landslides, ground failure, or other natural hazards?		X			
f. Other:____________					
2. AIR					
a. Emission of air pollutants or deterioration of ambient air quality? (also see #13 (c))		X			
b. Creation of objectionable odors? ____________		X			
c. Alteration of air movement, moisture, or temperature patterns or any change in climate, either locally or regionally:		X			
d. Adverse effects on vegetation, including crops, due to increased emissions of pollutants?		X			
e. Other:____________					

PART II. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT EVALUATION

	UNKNOWN	NONE	MINOR	POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT	CAN IMPACT BE MITIGATE BY PROJECT CHANGE?
3. WATER					
Will the proposed action result in:					
a. Discharge into surface water or any alteration of surface water quality, including but not limited to temperature, dissolved oxygen or turbidity?		X			
b. Changes in drainage patterns or the rate and amount of surface runoff?		X			
c. Alteration of the course or magnitude of flood water or other flows?		X			
d. Changes in the amount of surface water in any water body or creation of a new water body?		X			
e. Exposure of people or property to water related hazards such as flooding?		X			
f. Changes in the quality of ground water?		X			
g. Changes in the quantity of ground water?		X			
h. Increase in risk of contamination of surface or ground water?		X			
i. Effects on any existing water rights or reservations?		X			
j. Effects on other water users as a result of any alteration in surface or ground water quality?		X			
k. Effects on other water users as a result of any alteration in surface or ground water quantity?		X			
l. Other:_______________					

PART II. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT EVALUATION

	UNKNOWN	NONE	MINOR	POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT	CAN IMPACT BE MITIGATE BY PROJECT CHANGE?
4. VEGETATION					
Will the proposed action result in:					
a. Changes in the diversity, productivity or abundance of plant species (including trees, shrubs, grass, crops, and aquatic plants)?		X			
b. Alteration of a plant community?		X			
c. Adverse effects on any unique, rare, threatened, or endangered species?		X			
d. Reduction in acreage or productivity or any agricultural land?		X			
e. Establishment or spread of noxious weeds?		X			
f. Other:______________					
5. FISH/WILDLIFE					
Will the proposed action result in:					
a. Deterioration of critical fish or wildlife habitat?		X			
b. Changes in the diversity or abundance of game animals or bird species?		X			
c. Changes in the diversity or abundance of nongame species?		X			
d. Introduction of new species into an area?		X			
e. Creation of a barrier to the migration or movement of animals?		X			
f. Adverse effects on any unique, rare, threatened, or endangered species?		X			
g. Increase in conditions that stress wildlife populations or limit abundance (including harassment, legal or illegal harvest or other human activity)?		X			
h. Other:______________					

PART II. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT EVALUATION

	UNKNOWN	NONE	MINOR	POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT	CAN IMPACT BE MITIGATE BY PROJECT CHANGE?
6. NOISE/ELECTRICAL EFFECTS					
Will the proposed action result in:					
a. Increases in existing noise levels?		X			
b. Exposure of people to severe or nuisance noise levels?		X			
c. Creation of electrostatic or electromagnetic effects that could be detrimental to human health or property?		X			
d. Interference with radio or television reception and operation?		X			
e. Other: ________________					
7. LAND USE					
Will the proposed action result in:					
a. Alteration of or interference with the productivity or profitability of the existing land use of an area?		X			
b. Conflict with a designated natural area or area of unusual scientific or educational importance?		X			
c. Conflict with any existing land use whose presence would constrain or potentially prohibit the proposed action?		X			
d. Adverse effects on or relocation of residences?		X			
e. Other:________________					
8. RISK/HEALTH HAZARDS					
Will the proposed action involve:					
a. Risk of an explosion or release of hazardous substances (including but not limited to, oil, pesticides, chemicals or radiation) in the event of an accident or other forms of disruption?		X			

PART II. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT EVALUATION

	UNKNOWN	NONE	MINOR	POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT	CAN IMPACT BE MITIGATE BY PROJECT CHANGE?
b. Affect an existing emergency response or emergency evacuation plan or create a need for a new plan?		X			
c. Creation of any human health hazard or potential hazard?		X			
d. Other: ______________					
9. COMMUNITY IMPACTS					
a. Alteration of the location, distribution, density, or growth rate of the human population of an area?		X			
b. Alteration of the social structure of a community?		X			
c. Alteration of the level or distribution of employment or community or personal income?		X			
d. Changes in industrial or commercial activity?		X			
e. Changes in cultural diversity or uniqueness?		X			
f. Increased traffic hazards or effects on existing transportation facilities or patterns of movement of people and goods?		X			
g. Other: ______________					
10. PUBLIC SERVICES TAXES/UTILITIES					
a. Will the proposed action have an effect upon or result in a need for new or altered governmental services in any of the following areas: fire or police protection, schools, parks/recreational facilities, maintenance, water supply, sewer or septic systems, solid waste disposal, health, or other governmental services? If any, specify:______________ ______________		X			

PART II. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT EVALUATION

	UNKNOWN	NONE	MINOR	POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT	CAN IMPACT BE MITIGATE BY PROJECT CHANGE?
b. Will the proposed action have an effect upon the local or state tax base and revenue?		X			
c. Will the proposed action result in a need for new facilities or substantial alterations of any of the following utilities: electric power, natural gas, other fuel supply or distribution systems, or communications?		X			
d. Will the proposed action result in increased use of any energy source?		X			
e. Other: __________					
11. AESTHETICS/RECREATION					
Will the proposed action result in:					
a. Alteration of any scenic vista or creation of an aesthetically offensive site or effect that is open to public view?			X		
b. Alteration of the aesthetic of character of a community or neighborhood?		X			
c. Alteration of the quality or quantity of recreational opportunities and settings?			X		
d. Other: ______________					
12. CULTURAL/HISTORIC RESOURCES					
Will the proposed action result in:					
a. Destruction of alteration of any site, structure or object of prehistoric, historic, or paleontological importance?		X			
b. Physical change that would affect unique cultural values?		X			
c. Effects on existing religious or sacred uses of a site or area?		X			
d. Other: ______________					

PART II. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT EVALUATION

	UNKNOWN	NONE	MINOR	POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT	CAN IMPACT BE MITIGATE BY PROJECT CHANGE?
13. SUMMARY EVALUATION OF SIGNIFICANCE					
Does the proposed action, considered as a whole:					
a. Have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? (A project may result in impacts on two or more separate resources which create a significant effect when considered together or in total.)		X			
b. Involve potential risks or adverse effects which are uncertain but extremely hazardous if they were to occur?		X			
c. Potentially conflict with the substantive requirements of any local, state, or federal law, regulation, standard or formal plan?		X			
d. Establish a precedent or likelihood that future actions with significant environmental impacts will be proposed?		X			
e. Generate substantial debate or controversy about the nature of the impacts that would be created?		X			

PART III. IMPACT EVALUATION AND MITIGATION OPTIONS
(attach additional sheets as necessary)

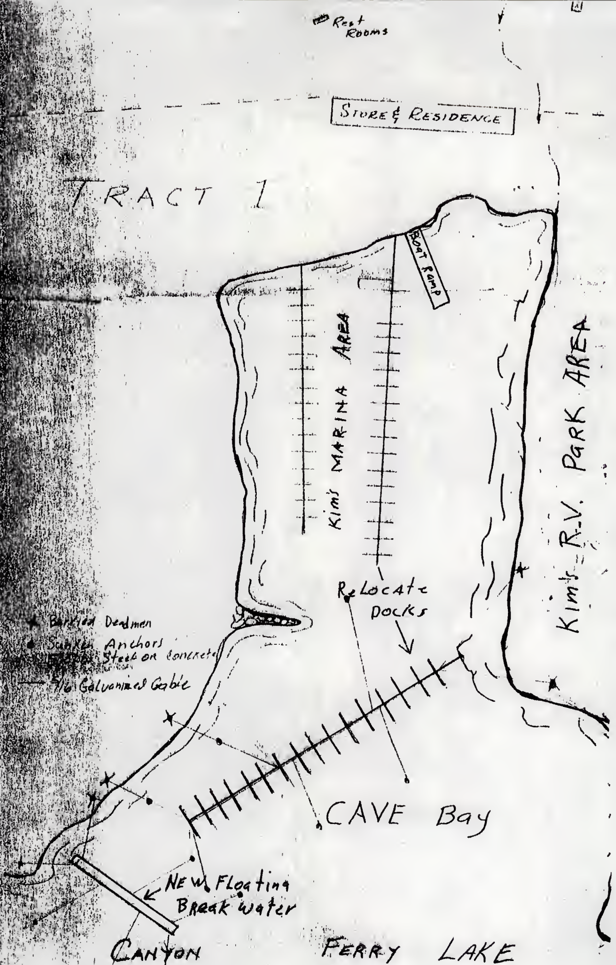
11. Aesthetics/Recreation

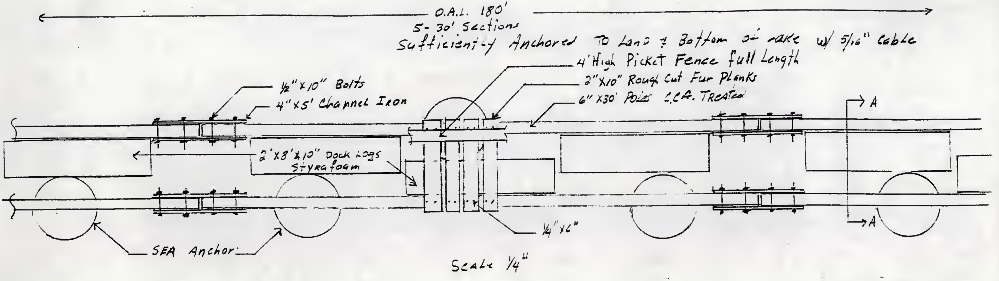
A. Alteration of any scenic vista or creation of an aesthetically offensive site or effect that is open to public view.

The breakwater might be considered to be an unattractive feature. Breakwaters are generally common structures used in protecting boat docks etc. from wind and excessive wave action. On Canyon Ferry Lake, there are over 100 boat docks, many safety buoys and substantial shoreline development that projects a sense of development (i.e. construction). In other words, Canyon Ferry is not an isolated natural body of water that has not been historically altered by development. The safety of boaters and the protection of property have to be factored in dealing with an issue of aesthetics. The breakwater should only create a potentially minor aesthetic impact.

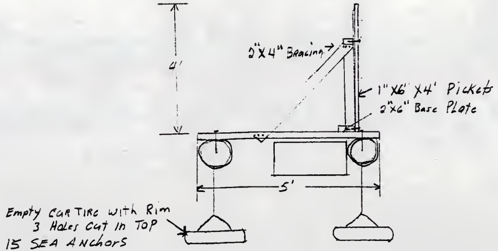
C. Alteration of the quality or quantity of recreational opportunities and settings.

There will be a positive impact that will be utilized by the portion of the 200,000+ park users who utilize Kim's Marina. The general boating population who utilize Canyon Ferry Lake may not benefit from the installation of a breakwater, but they also will not be negatively impacted by such a project.


Rest Rooms
STORE & RESIDENCE
TRACT 1
BOAT RAMP
KIM'S MARINA AREA
KIM'S R.V. PARK AREA
Relocate Docks
Buried Deadmen
Sunken Anchors
[illegible] Steel or concrete
7/16 Galvanized Cable
CAVE Bay
NEW Floating Break water
CANYON
FERRY LAKE


O.A.L. 180'
5- 30' Sections
Sufficiently Anchored To Land & Bottom of Lake w/ 5/16" Cable
4' High Picket Fence full Length
1/2"x10" Bolts
4"x5' Channel Iron
2"x10" Rough Cut Fur Planks
6"x30' Poles C.C.A. Treated
A
A
2'x8'x10" Dock Logs Styrafoam
1/4"x6"
SEA Anchor

Scale 1/4"



Floating Break Water

KIM'S MARINA & RESORT
8015 CANYON FERRY ROAD
HELENA, MONTANA 59601

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